



PRIVATE LAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical Bulletin No. 2

Summer Edition August, 2012

In this issue:

Private Land Technical Assistance - Call For Projects:	Pages 2 - 3
Hunter Access Tools for Private Land:	Page 4
Online Hunter Access Tools:	Pages 5 - 6
Private Land Technical Assistance - Featured Project:	Pages 7 - 8
Game Damage Innovations - Haystack Protection Alternative:	Page 9
Gadgets for the Field:	Page 10
Integrating Human Dimensions Research into Wildlife Mgmt:	Pages 11 - 13



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

PRIVATE LAND TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE CONTACT
INFORMATION:

Joe Weigand
Private Land Wildlife Specialist

PRIVATE LAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALL FOR PROJECTS

Time to Gear Up
for Fall!



What does FWP offer?

We seek win-win solutions to help landowners tolerate and coexist with wildlife.

- ◆ Technical assistance and staff support on projects designed to reduce wildlife impacts, improve habitat, and resolve conflicts with wildlife.
- ◆ Help for municipalities to address and reduce wildlife conflicts.
- ◆ Support through a vast, growing technical library.
- ◆ Resources for Montana, Fish Wildlife and Parks managers, biologists, wardens and support staff.

Do you know a landowner that you would like to involve in a cooperative project that doesn't fit with game damage or traditional habitat enhancement projects?

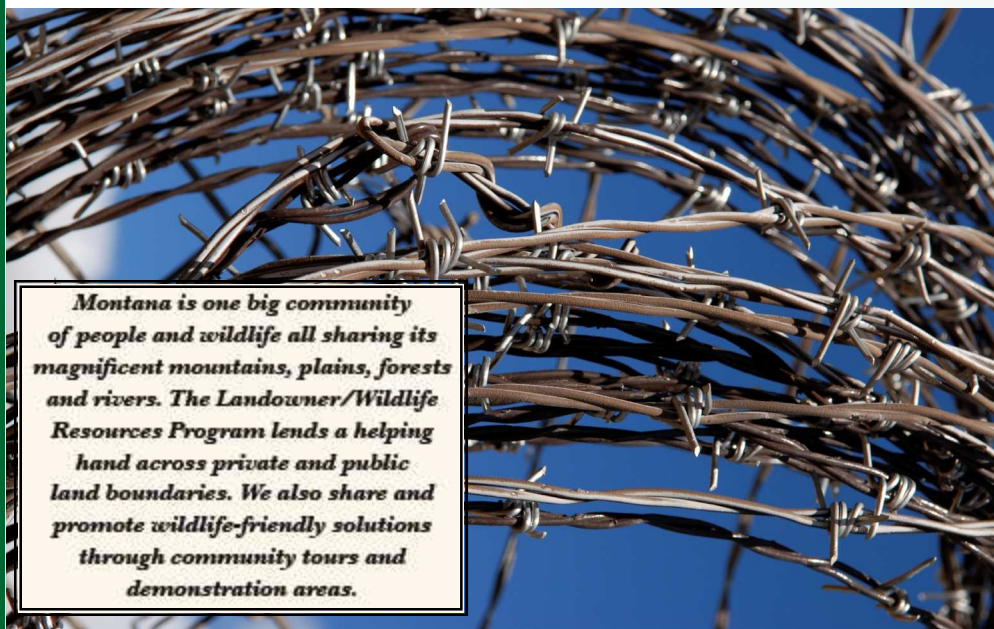
Technical assistance is provided to promote the successful coexistence of wildlife and agriculture. Projects can be funded if they emphasize local involvement, partnership approaches, cost-sharing, innovation, prevention and proactive solutions to agricultural/wildlife conflicts.

The purpose is to develop creative, proactive solutions to agriculture-wildlife conflicts by funding well developed and thought-out projects. Biologists and wardens are encouraged to form working partnerships with landowners to seek out local solutions to sometimes complex situations, including locally applied methods and management techniques or educational outreach

projects that are designed to accomplish the following actions:

1. Identify and respond to specific landownership and agricultural-based needs.
2. Encourage formation of local partnerships, including cost-sharing through partial funding and in-kind contributions. Appropriate partners most often include farmers and ranchers but may also include other agencies, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, teachers and other private citizens.

(Objectives continued on next page)



We help landowners maintain or improve wildlife habitats on private lands, while avoiding and reducing conflicts.

- ◆ Increase appreciation and tolerance of wildlife on private lands.
- ◆ Take proactive measures to avoid or reduce wildlife damage.
- ◆ Help wildlife migrate and find the food and shelter they need to survive.
- ◆ Help maintain Montana's hunting and wildlife heritage.
- ◆ Preserve and enhance traditional agriculture on the landscape.

Montana is one big community of people and wildlife all sharing its magnificent mountains, plains, forests and rivers. The Landowner/Wildlife Resources Program lends a helping hand across private and public land boundaries. We also share and promote wildlife-friendly solutions through community tours and demonstration areas.

CALL FOR PROJECTS CONTINUED

Putting Good Ideas to Work

Tools for the Whole Community

*"When we see land as a community to which we belong,
we may begin to use it with love and respect."*

— Aldo Leopold

Actions - continued

3. Develop and deliver information and techniques that help individuals and local farm and ranch communities understand the consequences of their actions and helps them make informed decisions and responsible choices.
4. Promote personal and local agricultural community collaboration in anticipating and preventing wildlife problems or responsibly resolving problems that could not have been prevented.
5. Implement preemptive problem solving, (e.g. prevent problems from occurring rather than simply alleviating existing problems that could have been prevented)
6. Reduce current demands on other FWP resources for response to situations that are more effectively addressed through Private Land Technical Assistance/Resources.
7. Make solutions readily accessible to others.

To Request Assistance and Kick Off a New Project:

Refer to the Private Land Technical Assistance Project Prioritization and Approval document for additional details and to access the proposal template. Local staff involvement is required (even if a project is proposed directly by a landowner) and Regional Wildlife Manager and/or Warden Captain involvement and approval is sought and encouraged.

Project Examples (Outside-the-box projects and ideas are strongly encouraged)

- ◆ Grazing pasture management: from rest-rotation to temporary electric fence that is less obstructive to wildlife;
- ◆ Alternative stackyards: cost-share for rigid structures or electric stackyards
- ◆ Game damage deterrence: new untested products or alternatives (repellents, fence, pyrotechnics, etc.);
- ◆ Wildlife friendly fence;
- ◆ Hunter access: fence crossing stiles or ladders;
- ◆ General technical information needs: from simple to complex (e.g. pocket gopher damage prevention to deploying electrified wolf fladry);



The program guidance document and proposal template are available from Joe Weigand and can also be found in the FWP repository.

HUNTER ACCESS TOOLS FOR PRIVATE LAND

*Ask First
to hunt on
private property!!*

Montana
Hunter/Landowner

ACCESS COURTESY CARDS



Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks

Access Courtesy Cards:

These cards are available free from all Regional and Area Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices. They are a handy tool for hunters accessing private property. By filling out the information on the cards the hunter is able to provide the landowner with his or her personal information such as name, address, and vehicle identification. In turn, the landowner is able to hand the hunter verification of the fact that the hunter has permission to hunt on the property for certain dates and species.

Each pocket-sized booklet contains 8 cards for the landowners and 8 for the hunter.

MONTANA ACCESS COURTESY CARD (Hunter's Copy)

Landowner's Name: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Permission granted from _____ to _____
Start Date _____ End Date _____
Type of hunting allowed _____
Special rules: _____

MONTANA ACCESS COURTESY CARD (Landowner's Copy)

Permission granted to: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____
Vehicle Type: _____ Color _____
Veh. Lic # _____
ALS # _____
Example: (02/09/1945-3)
I agree to abide by all ranch rules.
Hunter's Signature _____ Date _____

NOTES

Harvest information:

Other:

REMEMBER TO SAY "THANKS!"

To report a violation call 1-800-TIP-MONT

NOTES

Harvest information:

Other:

Thanks for sharing your land!

To report a violation call 1-800-TIP-MONT

Permission Slip Booklets:

These permission slips have been the standard for landowners seeking to give formal written permission to hunters for many years. They are used extensively by Block Management cooperators as well as landowner not in the program but those who wish to offer formal permission, and those landowners who like to have a written record.

The permission slip booklet offers slips in triplicate. One for the hunter, one for the landowner, and one for FWP (if necessary).

Booklets are available free from Regional and Area FWP offices.



Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks

No. _____

Name: _____ ALS # _____
(First and Last) (Example - 02/09/1955-6)

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____ Vehicle Lic. # _____

Vehicle Description (Model, Year, Color) _____

Number in Party: _____ (Please list full names of other party members)

NAME ALS

(Please Print First & Last Name Clearly) NUMBER

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

By my signature, I grant permission to the above named person(s) to: () hunt; () fish; () other _____

on my property under my control on **THE FOLLOWING DATE(S):** _____

Species to be hunted: Elk WT-Deer M-Deer Antelope U-Birds Waterfowl Other _____

Special Instructions: _____

ONLINE HUNTER ACCESS TOOLS

Regional Block Mgmt Info, Access Guides & Maps

(<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess/privateLand/blockman/regional.html>)

FWP's Block Management Program information is available online.

Because there are variations in the way each FWP administrative region manages Block Management, specific information is provided for each Region. For example, some regions may direct hunters to certain areas to help distribute hunting pressure and prevent landowners from being overwhelmed by access requests. Other regions may 'block' together multiple properties to form 'walk-in' areas on which permission from a landowner is not required prior to entering the BMA. Huntable game species also varies greatly across the state so providing hunters with specific Regional information can be invaluable.

To learn more about each region, hunters are directed to view or download the regional Hunting Access Guides. Clicking on the region of interest on the map or the regional links takes the hunter directly to that Region's information. Hunters can then also download specific Block Management Area maps and rules.

[Region 1](#)

[Region 2](#)

[Region 3](#)

[Region 4](#)

[Region 5](#)

[Region 6](#)

[Region 7](#)



Contact Alan Charles
with questions
regarding FWP Hunter
Access Programs.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE ACCESS TOOLS

[\(http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess/\)](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess/)

Whether hunting public or private land, the successful hunter will spend time scouting an area and talking with locals to identify good hunting opportunities and establish personal relationships. FWP's website puts contact and other critical information within easy reach of any hunter with online access.

The first thing hunters often need is a good set of maps. FWP publishes the [Directory of Montana Maps](#) which provides a listing of all agency and local government contacts where hunters can find land ownership information. Links are also provided to contact the [Bureau of Land Management](#), [U.S. Forest Service](#), and the [U.S. Geological Survey](#).

Hunters are also encouraged to visit a local sporting goods store to acquire maps of the areas that they intend to hunt. Because land ownership changes over time, hunters need to verify public ownership with land management agencies or they can verify public and private land ownership on the web through the [Montana Department of Administration Cadastral Mapping Project](#).

All hunters should have a good understanding of Montana's access laws. The law requires every hunter to have permission from the landowner, lessee or agent before hunting on private property regardless of whether the land is posted or not. It is every hunter's responsibility to know the land ownership of the area he intends to hunt and any land use restrictions that may apply there.

Public Land Hunting Opportunities

Montana boasts over 30 million acres of state and federal lands, nearly one third of the state. Basic information is provided online to hunters to help them find a productive area that is legally accessible

Access to State Lands

School Trust Lands

There are 5.5 million acres of state school trust lands in Montana.

State Wildlife Management Areas

Montana [Wildlife Management Areas \(WMA\)](#) are owned and managed by the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks and provide free public hunting opportunities statewide.

Fishing Access Sites

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks owns and manages [Fishing Access Sites \(FAS\)](#) statewide. Generally, FASs provide stream or lake access only. Some sites also allow hunting. Hunters should contact the appropriate [FWP Regional Office](#) to check on restrictions before hunting at an FAS.

Montana Department of Corrections

The Montana State Prison Ranch offers big game and bird hunting on 23,000 acres of land managed by the Department of Corrections at Warm Springs near Deer Lodge. For additional information on area restrictions and a detailed map, hunters can contact the FWP Region 2 Headquarters at (406) 542-5530.

Access to Federal Lands

National Forest Lands

National forests in Montana comprise nearly 16 million acres. Most national forest lands that are legally accessible via a public road, navigable waterway, or adjacent state or federal land are open to hunting. National Forest maps are available from all Forest Service District Offices or the [Northern Regional Office](#).

BLM Lands

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages over 8 million acres of mostly range land and some forested land across the state. Most BLM lands that are legally accessible via a public road, navigable waterway, or adjacent state or federal land are open to hunting. Maps are available from all [BLM Area Offices](#).

National Refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) manages ten national wildlife refuges in Montana most of which allow hunting during some portion of the season. USFWS also oversees hundreds of waterfowl production areas that provide waterfowl, upland bird, and limited big game hunting opportunities. Hunters should contact refuge personnel before hunting on any national wildlife refuge or the [CMR Refuge Office](#).

US Bureau of Reclamation Lands

The [US Bureau of Reclamation \(BOR\)](#) administers approximately 200,000 acres of land and 100,000 acres of surface water in Montana. Where there is legal public access, BOR managed land is open to hunting, fishing and other recreational activity.

PRIVATE LAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FEATURED PROJECT

Project Partners: Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association and Grant Creek Ranch

Project Objective: Reduce elk damage to fence and injury to elk by replacing old dilapidated fence with a fence of wildlife friendly design.

FWP Cost: \$249.84

Fish, Wildlife and Parks partnered with the Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association to construct an elk friendly section of fence along the border between the Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association and the Grant Creek Ranch located near Missoula, Montana.

The Grant Creek elk herd traversed this area regularly when on their winter range. This section of fence had rotting wooden posts that were chronically knocked down by the elk herd as it passed back and forth.

The Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association was interested in making sure that the Grant Creek Ranch's cattle weren't able to enter the subdivision, but they also wanted to let the elk and deer pass as easily as possible. The Association felt that they were responsible for half of the fence, and therefore wanted to see that the elk did as little damage as possible when they passed through.

The new section of fence has a barbless top wire 42 inches from the ground. The second wire is a foot below the top wire. The third wire is 7 inches below the second and the bottom (fourth) wire is 7 inches below the third wire, leaving 16 inches between the bottom wire and the ground.

The fence replaced fence was five strands of barbed wire with two stays between every two fence posts.

The Grant Creek Ranch crew (a foreman and two ranch workers) worked an afternoon and a morning on this job. Three homeowners from the Association helped the crew during the morning when the job was completed. Approximately 24 hours of labor were expended to replace 800 to 1,000-feet of the fence.



PRIVATE LAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FEATURED PROJECT (Continued)

Shortly after construction of the new fence, the ranch's cows and calves spent a month in the pasture with the new fence. The new fence successfully held them. Indications thus far have been that this fence design holds cattle and allows elk and deer to pass readily. Additional interest has already been expressed in installing elk-friendly fence on other nearby properties.

As an additional benefit, the Association is happy to host visits to take a look at this section of fence.



Members of the Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association readily partner with agencies and other member-based organizations to work on wildlife friendly fence projects, fence removal projects, and noxious weed control projects. Occasionally the rewards are more than just the enjoying hard work and having a good time.



In March 1910, sportsmen from Butte paid Northern Pacific Railroad \$5.00 per head to transport 25 elk, trapped north of Yellowstone National Park, to the Mount Fleecer area southwest of Butte. This was Montana's first elk transplant.

Of game animals harvested each year in Montana, about 75% of antelope, 35% of elk, 60% of mule deer, and 68% of white-tailed deer are harvested on private land. Of Montana's 93 million acres, 59 million acres (64%) is privately-owned land.

GAME DAMAGE INNOVATIONS

HAYSTACK PROTECTION ALTERNATIVE

DEER-D-FENCE®

DEER-D-FENCE® keeps things simple with a system that has been proving itself for ten years in the rugged Rocky Mountains and in the extreme weather conditions in Montana.

Why might DEER-D-FENCE® be right for you?

It can save money: Lighter weight materials do not always work and heavier materials tend to be more expensive and not necessary. This material is light weight, but strong enough to deter deer, elk and other critters from destroying landscaping or haystacks. (Over 600 pounds of tensile strength.)

Almost invisible: DEER-D-FENCE® is aesthetically unobtrusive.

Easy to Use: This material is designed for easy, permanent installation, but can also be used in various reusable situations. (One roll, 7'6" X 164' weighs only 38 pounds.)

Stability: The 25% carbon-content material provides very good UV stability.

For more information contact Tizer Lake Distributors: 406-933-8789 or 1-866-933-8789

(toll free) E-mail: info@deerd fence.com

www.tizergardens.com



FWP field use of this material has revealed a few key findings:

1. When properly used in a rigid manner, supported by posts, this materials is long-lasting, effective and durable.
2. When used for temporary purposes such as a hay-stack wrap, the product has seen mixed results but can be expected to deter deer or elk damage for a limited time under moderate winter conditions.
3. When used for temporary purposes and stored improperly, very few seasons of use can be expected.

To properly store, Deer-D-Fence and similar plastic extruded fence should be carefully rolled, avoiding kinks and bends, then secured with cable-ties to prevent unrolling. Heavy items should not be placed on rolls of material.

GADGETS FOR THE FIELD

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INGENUITY

The **Turdle** is an all metal device used to extend the height of a t-post fence or stackyard by connecting two t-posts together. It provides an easy and economical alternative to replacing shorter posts with longer ones.

The **Turdle** is manufactured by Hard Wear Mfg, Inc. in Lavina, Montana.

www.turdlefencing.com



Turdle Fencing

Installation Instructions

The T-Post Universal Detachable Length Extender is not just a part, it's a tool allowing the fencer many options. It features easy-to-use, solid steel construction, and requires no heavy equipment for installation. The Extender can be used on existing fencelines where open access or landscape restricts standard fencing practice. No welding necessary, the Extender installs in minutes, saving labor and cost, and is completely reusable. The Extender can be used to mitigate deer, elk and antelope, as a landscape reinforcement, debris fence, construction site safety fence, vineyard fence or gate support reinforcement. U.S. Patent Pending.



1. Place the T-Post Universal Detachable Length Extender over the top of the existing T-Post in your fenceline. The Extender must be clean and dry to ensure proper installation. Do not tighten the bolts at this point.
2. Insert the bottom of the extending T-Post into the remaining slot, parallel to the existing post. A minimum of 3 inches overlap of the two posts is suggested to ensure a stable extension.
3. Tighten the bolts simultaneously, using a 9/16" wrench for final adjustments. Fencing pliers and a small hammer may also be required for installation.

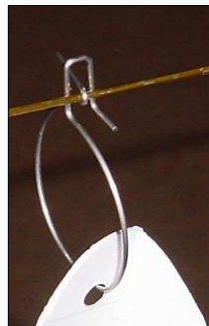
For questions or to order replacement parts for your T-Post Universal Detachable Length Extender, contact Turdle Fencing at hardwear@midrivers.com. Additional information can be found online at www.turdlefencing.com.



FENCE-FLAG®



Photos from Mom and Pop Products Co. website
<http://www.fence-flag.com/>



The FENCE-FLAG® is a patented fence warning device using an oval shaped 3" X 5" rigid bright white plastic form, having a permanently molded 90° bend with a hang hole on either end. The flag hangs in free suspension from one of the holes, the other being a spare, by a uniquely formed stainless steel spring temper K-CLIP®. The K-CLIP® attaches with finger tip application, to any style line of fencing commonly used to contain livestock. The FENCE-FLAG® provides excellent visibility as they move with the slightest breeze, especially at night, even over snow. FENCE-FLAGS® are packaged 12 per bag and are available online or through local agricultural supply dealers.

FWP field testing has resulted in the recommendation of not using these on high-tensile smooth-wire or barbless wire, or in areas of frequent high winds.

Through the evaluation of new and ingenious products, FWP is seeking to add viable tools to its game damage and wildlife conflict resolution and prevention toolbox.

INTEGRATING HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH INTO WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Select Results from a Survey of 2010 Antlerless Elk B License Holders in Montana

Antlerless elk hunting is a critically important tool for wildlife managers to help manage populations of elk, especially in areas of the state where elk numbers are exceeding population objectives. In these areas, Montana's elk hunting regulations have become more liberal during the past decade. In many instances, hunters have the opportunity to harvest an antlerless elk using their General Elk License. And, increasingly, wildlife managers are offering additional opportunities to hunt antlerless elk in these areas, including the use of supplemental Antlerless Elk B Licenses.

Following the 2009 general big game hunting season, several Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) biologists commented that it is important to understand whether or not antlerless elk hunters are gaining access to places where they have a chance of effectively harvesting elk. In particular, concern was expressed about areas of the state where increases in the elk population have not led to increases in hunter harvest despite more liberalized elk hunting and harvest regulations. The key question here was, *"Are antlerless elk hunters having difficulty obtaining access to places where elk are located?"*

With these concerns in mind, FWP conducted a survey following the 2010 general big game hunting season to evaluate the effectiveness of Antlerless Elk B Licenses in helping to manage populations of elk in selected area of the state where there have been concerns expressed about hunting access.

This survey aimed to do the following:

1. Determine the extent to which 2010 Antlerless Elk B License holders were able to gain access to hunt antlerless elk.
2. Determine what type of properties 2010 Antlerless Elk B License holders were able to secure permission to hunt, using six property categories developed from a landowner study conducted by FWP and Colorado State University in 2008 (McCoy et. al., 2009)
3. Determine the extent to which 2010 Antlerless Elk B License holders were able to successfully harvest antlerless elk.
4. Determine hunter satisfaction with the Antlerless Elk B Licenses they received in 2010.

Sixteen different Antlerless Elk B Licenses in the southwest, central, and eastern portions of Montana were selected for the survey. All but two of these Elk B Licenses were deemed to have some level of concern regarding elk hunting access in the hunting districts (HDs) for which they were valid. The 339-80 and 343-80 Antlerless Elk B Licenses were selected as control groups for the survey because of relative well known, good access to both publicly and privately owned lands in HDs 339 and 343.

Surveys were successfully mailed out to a total of N= 5,297 randomly selected Elk B License holders. There were a total of n=2,954 survey respondents, resulting in an overall 56 percent response rate for the survey. Response rates for each of the Antlerless Elk B Licenses included in the survey ranged from a low of 51 percent to a high of 66 percent. These response rates are considered to be very good for a mail-back survey of this kind.

WHERE DID SURVEY RESPONDENTS REPORT THEY HUNTED USING THEIR ELK B LICENSES?

Hunting on non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is NOT owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives was reported by 15 percent or fewer of the respondents for 10 of the 16 Antlerless Elk B License included in the survey. Successfully securing permission to hunt on this type of property varied across the Elk B Licenses included in the survey. Respondents found it particularly problematic securing access to this type of property using the 312-80, 314-80, 390-80, 540-80, 580-80, and 621-81 Antlerless Elk B Licenses.

1 The property categories used for the survey included: (1) publicly owned land; (2) privately owned land enrolled in FWP's Block Management Program; (3) non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives; (4) non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is NOT owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives; (5) privately owned land guided by a hunting outfitter (licensed outfitter or landowner outfitter); and, (6) privately owned land with access fees charged (e.g., hunting lease, daily fees charged per hunter or group of hunters, etc.).

HOW SUCCESSFUL WERE SURVEY RESPONDENTS IN HARVESTING ANTLERLESS ELK?

Antlerless elk harvest success varied across the six different property types included in this survey. Harvest success on publicly owned lands appeared to be closely tied to quantity and accessibility of public lands for each of the Elk B Licenses included in the survey. Similarly, harvest on privately owned lands enrolled in Block Management for each license included in the survey appeared to be closely tied to the number of Block Management Areas with suitable elk habitat. Harvest success rates on non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives was well above average for the majority of the licenses included in the survey. On the other hand, harvest success varied considerably on non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is NOT owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives. Of note, harvest success rates were well above average for the 314-80 and 540-80 Antlerless Elk B Licenses on this type of property. However, a majority of the survey respondents reported they were unable to secure access to this type of property to use these two Elk B Licenses. Lastly, harvest success on privately owned land guided by an outfitting business (or on privately owned land where access fees are charged) was well above average—with some notable exceptions.

Data from this study was used in combination with overall antlerless elk harvest estimates from the 2010 Hunter Harvest Telephone Survey to come up with estimates of harvest distribution across the six different property types for each of the Antlerless Elk B Licenses included in the survey. Of particular interest, harvest on non-Block Management private land (without a fee) owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives accounted for the greatest percentage of harvest for 10 of the 16 Antlerless Elk B Licenses included in the survey. And, 50 percent or more of estimated antlerless elk harvest occurred on this type of property for the 312-80, 390-80, 540-80, 560-80, 580-80, 590-80, and 590-81 Antlerless Elk B Licenses.

SATISFACTION WITH ANTLERLESS ELK B LICENSES

Overall, 82 percent of the survey respondents who hunted or attempted to hunt reported they were satisfied with the Antlerless Elk B License they received in 2010. Two licenses, 315-80 and 560-80, exceeded 90 percent satisfaction. The 390-80 Antlerless Elk B License experienced the lowest reported satisfaction at 59 percent.

Respondents who were dissatisfied with their Elk B License were asked to provide reasons for their dissatisfaction. The most frequently mentioned reasons included: (1) not seeing any elk while hunting and (2) elk were located on inaccessible privately owned property with no hunting access or limited hunting access.

DISCUSSION

Over the past 20 years, hunters have increasingly come to rely on public lands and Block Management to hunt elk in Montana. During that same timeframe, public comment and other limited research has indicated that securing access to hunt elk on non-Block Management private land (without a fee) that is NOT owned by family, relatives, a close friend, or friends of family/relatives has increasingly become a challenge for many hunters. The survey results presented herein reinforce both of these notions.

Overall, survey respondents reported a high level of satisfaction with their 2010 Antlerless Elk B Licenses. And, overall harvest success reported by survey respondents was near the state average. That said, an analysis of the open-ended comments provided by survey respondents suggest that resident elk hunters continue to be concerned about gaining access to where elk are located. Survey results for the 314-80, 540-80 and other Antlerless Elk B Licenses included in this study, highlight these concerns.

License specific survey results are available by contacting Mike Lewis (mlewis@mt.gov) or Joe Weigand (joweigand@mt.gov).

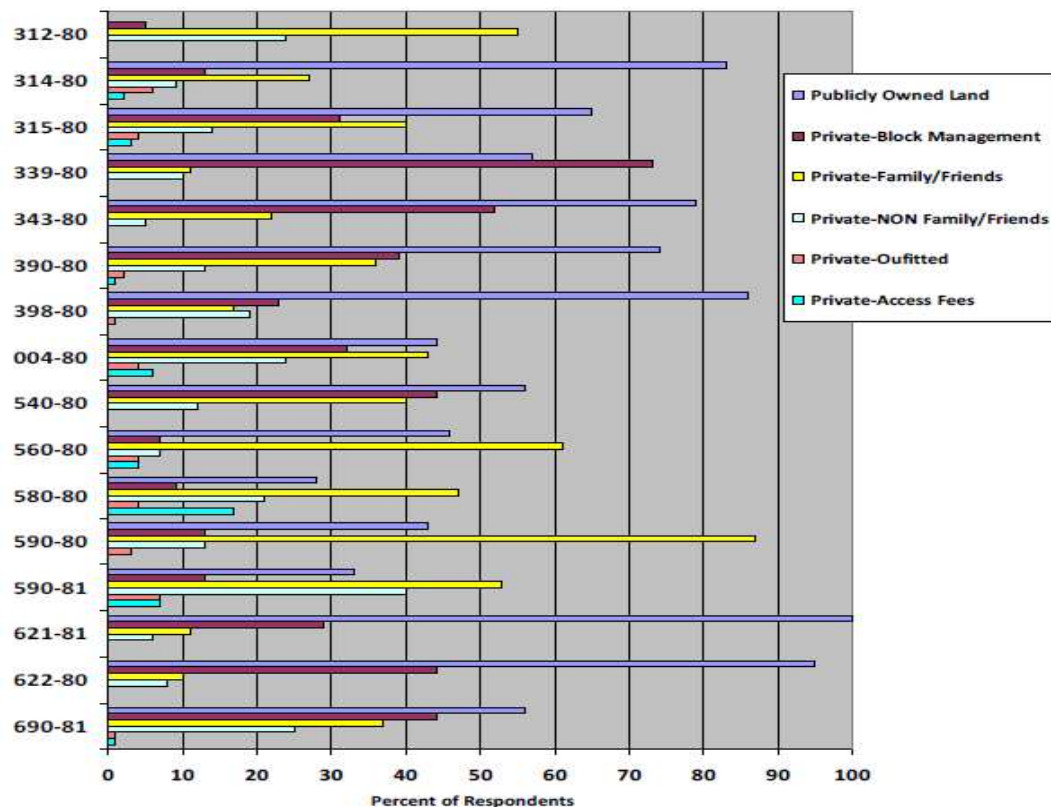
ALS NUMBER: 04/13/1943-1
TAG INFO: R 2004004
TRAINING MODE - NOT VALID
License Listing #: 4 1 of 1
Usage: 2010 Elk Season
Provider - Clerk #: 36009 - NEAL
Session #: D936009 - 06/22/2010 - 09:01:49

LOUIS N CLARK
JEFFERSON CITY MT 59638

Elk B
06/22/2010 36009
MFWP Director: Joe Maurier

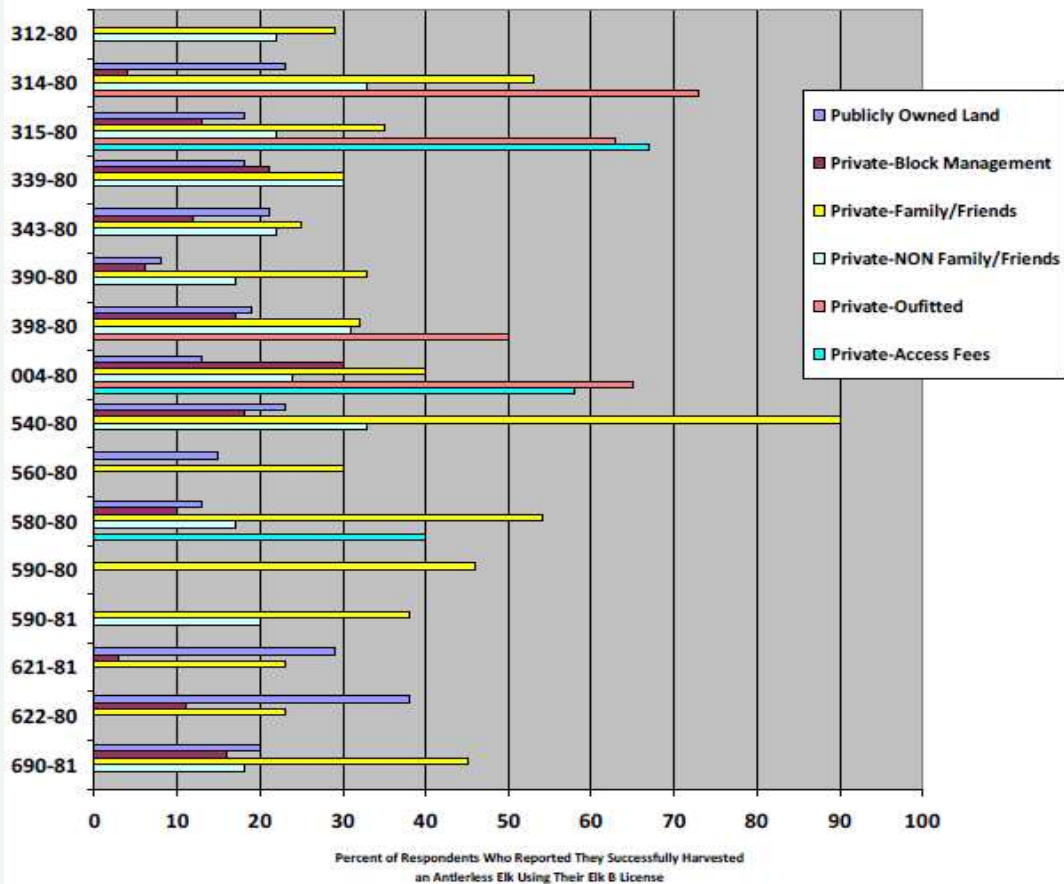
JAN> IMMEDIATELY UPON KILL <JUL
FEB> cut out month and date <AUG
MAR> and attach to carcass. <SEP
APR> <OCT
MAY> <NOV
JUN> DAY OF MONTH (below) <DEC
1st-digit 2nd-digit
1 2 3 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 8 9

Types of properties respondents reported they hunted using their antlerless elk B licenses (Includes results for each of the antlerless elk B licenses included in the survey). Many respondents reported accessing more than one property type.



In 1946, one out of every nine licensed Montana hunters harvested a deer, an 11% success rate.

Antlerless elk harvest success reported by respondents by type of property hunted (Includes results for each of the antlerless elk B licenses included in the survey).



**NEXT
ISSUE
HD
RESEARCH
SPOTLIGHT:
2011
MULE
DEER
HUNTER
PREFERENCE
SURVEY
RESULTS**



Elk Passage Gate: This trail wasn't made by cattle, but by North Hills elk that jumped the fence before this 25-footwide gate was installed during the spring of 2007. The pits on either side of the gate are where the elk jumped and landed. The gate will now be opened for elk each winter then closed each spring before cattle are turned in. Elk passage gates are one attempt to allow elk to move freely on their winter range without damaging ranch fences.

To request hard copies of this document contact Joe Weigand at 444-3065 or joweigand@mt.gov.